



Sunday, April 9, 2006
7:30 pm, Walter Hall



**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

Robin Engelman, director

2) **Turning Point (1993)** **Bob Becker**
Andrei Streliaev, Joel Cormier, Charlie Macleod, Kyoko Ogoda, Laura Savage, Amie Watson

3) **Time Traveler (2000)** **William Cahn**
Andrew Dunsmore, solo; Tim Borton, Kyoko Ogoda, Maya Postepski, Laura Savage

4) **Marubattoo (1988)** **John Wyre**
Tim Borton, Joel Cormier, Antti Ohenoja, Maya Postepski, Amie Watson

- INTERMISSION -

5) **Sky Ghost (2003)** **Russell Hartenberger**
Allison Bent, Dan Cameron, Andrew Dunsmore, Daniel Morphy, Maya Postepski

6) **Remembrance (1988)** **Robin Engelman**
Allison Bent, Tim Borton, Andrew Dunsmore, Daniel Morphy, Antti Ohenoja
Patrick Blanchard, bass trombone; Steve McFarlane, trombone; Dan Blondon, trumpet

7) **El Cumbanchero (1971)** **Rafael Hernandez**
Arr. Phil Faini
The Ensemble, Andrei Streliaev, Paul Clifford, bass

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Allison Bent, Tim Borton, Dan Cameron, Joel Cormier,
Andrew Dunsmore, Daniel Morphy, Antti Ohenoja, Kyoko Ogoda,
Maya Postepski, Laura Savage, Amie Watson

Special guest artists, Andrei Streliaev, Patrick Blanchard,
Steve McFarlane, Vincent Spilchuck, Paul Clifford

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PROGRAMME NOTES

Turning Point

Turning Point was composed for the NEXUS ensemble in January 1993. It is scored for marimba, vibraphone, songbells, glockenspiel, crotales and piano. The title is a reference both to the dance-like imagery that was visualized for the piece and to the continual use of chromatic trill figures in the music.

- Bob Becker

Time Traveler

Time Traveler was written for the Japanese percussionist Mika Yoshida and premiered in Walter Hall of the University of Toronto in April 2000. The work is scored for a soloist who plays marimba and an African donno or squeeze drum and an ensemble of four percussionists. The title refers to Ms. Yoshida's many trips to North America and refers not only to seconds, minutes and hours, but also a musician's sense of rhythm and beat.

- William Cahn edited by R.E.

Marubatoo

Marubatoo is the expansion of *Maruba*, which was written in 1987 for Beverley Johnston (marimba) and Scott Irvine (tuba). In *Maruba* the melodic line was written for the tuba. In 1988 I expanded *Maruba* for NEXUS. I gave the melody (tuba line) to the bass marimba. The solo marimba part remains unchanged. I added crotales to highlight the melodic line, and I also added another marimba part and a vibraphone part so there are four voices that support the melodic line in the bass marimba.

- John Wyre

Sky Ghost

Sky Ghost is based on some of the musical material from the song *Small Sky* by Toru Takemitsu. The *Small Sky* melody appears in the first section of the piece. In the second section, talking drum melodies are heard against a backdrop of African bell pattern played on the xylophone. There are, in essence, two bell patterns heard at once. The left hand plays a five-note pattern while the right hand "ghosts" a seven-note pattern against it. The third section reverses this procedure while the melody reappears.

- Russell Hartenberger

Remembrance

Sometimes while listening to a piece of music, a rhythmic motive or succession of tones will immediately recall another tune. The juxtaposition of the two is often bizarre, but spontaneous and unavoidable. *Remembrance* exists in two versions: the first for five percussionists and brass and the second for percussion quintet alone. *Remembrance* was written for NEXUS and is dedicated to an old porch swing.

- Robin Engelman

El Cumbanchero

El Cumbanchero is one of the earliest percussion ensemble works of its kind and its arranger Phil Faini has had a career of great distinction as a performer, educator, composer and administrator. In 1969, his University of West Virginia percussion ensemble was selected by the U.S. State Department for a nine-nation tour of South America that included concerts, workshops and television appearances in Argentina, Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, Paraguay, Trinidad and Uruguay. That tour inspired the arrangement of *El Cumbanchero*. Faini also made two extensive trips to Africa in 1968 and 1971 to record music and collect instruments for his ensemble.

In 1993 Faini founded the University of West Virginia's World Music Center. He brought steel drum inventor Ellie Mannette to the Center as artist-in-residence, as well as Ki Mantle Hood, founder of UCLA's famous Institute of Ethnomusicology, as senior distinguished professor and Paschal Yao Younge from the University of Ghana. Since then, many more percussion groups have been formed, including the Taiko Ensemble performing on Japanese drums, the Gamelan ensemble on Asian percussion instruments and the Salsa Band.

Faini was named Dean of the College of Creative Arts in the spring of 1993 and retired in 2000.